

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 114369  
ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-07 OC-06 CCO-00  
CG-00 DOTE-00 PRS-01 ACDA-07 MC-02 /069 R

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APPROVED BY EA:WHGLEESTEEN  
DOD/ISA - DLOHMANN  
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EA/RA - GBROH-KAHN  
EA/P - MSMITH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY  
INFO CINCPAC  
COMUS/JAPAN PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 114369

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: COMMANDO LION PRESS GUIDANCE

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE ON COMMANDO LION IS PROPOSED  
FOR USE ON AN IF-ASKED BASIS:

Q1: WE UNDERSTAND CONSTRUCTION BIDS HAVE BEEN SOLICITED  
FOR A PROJECT AT THE KASHIWA COMMUNICATION SITE. WHAT IS  
THE PURPOSE OF THAT CONSTRUCTION?

A1: A PROJECT IS UNDERWAY WORLDWIDE TO UPGRADE AN  
EXISTING LONG RANGE NAVIGATION (LORAN) SYSTEM.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 114369

Q2: WILL THIS PROJECT INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ADDI-  
TIONAL ANTENNAS?

A2: YES, A 191-METER ANTENNA WILL BE ERECTED AT THE SITE.  
NO OTHER NEW LORAN ANTENNAS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN JAPAN.

Q3: WILL THIS POSE ANY PROBLEM TO SAFETY OR ENVIRONMENTAL

ASPECTS IN THE SURROUNDING AREA?

A3: THE NEW TOWER SHOULD NOT ENDANGER AIR TRAFFIC IN THE AREA. RADIO AND TELEVISION INTERFERENCE SHOULD NOT POSE A PROBLEM SINCE TECHNIQUES CAN BE APPLIED TO FILTER INTERFERENCE, SHOULD THAT OCCUR.

Q4: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LORAN FACILITY AT KASHIWA?

A4: LORAN IS USED BY BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS AT SEA FOR ALL WEATHER NAVIGATION AND PRECISE POSITIONING INFORMATION. THE KASHIWA FACILITY IS PART OF A NETWORK USED BY THE U.S., JAPANESE, AND OTHER NATIONS OF THE WORLD TO PROVIDE PRECISE NAVIGATION IN THE NORTHWEST PACIFIC AREA.

Q5: IS THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN AWARE OF THIS UPGRADING PROJECT?

A5: YES UNDER STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT (SOFA), THE U.S. FORCES HAVE THE RIGHT TO USE THE FACILITY FOR MILITARY REQUIREMENTS WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION. HOWEVER, AS A MATTER OF PROCEDURE, WE HAVE ADVISED THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN OF THE PROJECT.

Q6: SINCE THE COAST GUARD WILL BE ASSUMING CONTROL OF THE FACILITY, WILL THERE BE ANY REDUCTION IN FORCE OF LOCAL NATIONALS CURRENTLY UNDER AIR FORCE MANAGEMENT?

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 114369

A6: THE ONLY REDUCTIONS PROGRAMMED ARE THE RELEASE OF NINE LOCAL NATIONAL EMPLOYEES WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN IDENTIFIED.

Q7: CAN THE LORAN FACILITY BE USED TO CONTROL PRECISION GUIDED MUNITIONS (PGMS), AS SUGGESTED BY ARTICLES PRINTED BY THE OSLO INSTITUTE?

A7: YES, ITS SIGNAL COULD BE USED IF LORAN-GUIDED PGMS WERE DEVELOPED. THE U.S. AIR FORCE CURRENTLY HAS NO PRODUCTION PLANS FOR THIS CAPABILITY.

Q8: ARE THERE OTHER FACILITIES OF THIS TYPE ON JAPANESE SOIL?

A8: YES, LORAN FACILITIES AT HOKKAIDO AND GESASHI ARE PART OF THIS NAVIGATIONAL NETWORK.

Q9: WHY IS MORE THAN ONE LORAN STATION REQUIRED IN JAPAN?

A9: TO PROVIDE PRECISION NAVIGATION CAPABILITY UNDER NIGHT AND ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Q10: WILL ANY LAND AT KASHIWA BE RELEASED TO THE GOVERNMENT?

A10: U.S. FORCES ARE CONTINUALLY REVIEWING FACILITY REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SOFA WITH A VIEW TOWARD RETURNING THOSE FACILITIES WHICH ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED. IT IS EXPECTED THAT SOME AMOUNT OF REAL ESTATE AND FACILITIES WILL BE RETURNED; THE AMOUNT TO BE RETURNED IS NOW BEING STUDIED AND WILL BE ADDRESSED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE FACILITIES SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE U.S.-JAPAN JOINT COMMITTEE. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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